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FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 9635
INFO RUCNFUR/DARFUR COLLECTIVE
RUEHZK/ECOWAS COLLECTIVE
RUEHGG/UN SECURITY COUNCIL COLLECTIVE

UNCLAS COTONOU 000485

SIPDIS

SENSITIVE

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR AF/W, AF/RSA, and IO/PSC (DHANKINS)

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: [PREL](#) [KPKO](#) [UNSC](#) [MASS](#) [BN](#) [SU](#)

SUBJECT: BENIN UNABLE TO CONSIDER TROOP CONTRIBUTION TO HYBRID
DARFUR OPERATION

REF: STATE 90022

(SBU) Charge spoke on July 2 with Benin's Minister of State for National Defense, Issifou Kogui N'Douro, to request that Benin consider a troop contribution to the hybrid AU/UN force for Darfur. N'Douro stated that Benin was unable to consider such a troop contribution because he simply did not have enough troops. N'Douro said that with PKO battalions currently deployed in Cote d'Ivoire and DR Congo, it was beyond the means of the Beninese Armed Forces to deploy a third battalion on a peacekeeping assignment. N'Douro said that Benin remained committed to providing its troop contributions in the two on-going missions, but that he would only be able to consider another PKO if one of those two battalions was no longer needed where it is currently deployed.

HOLTZAPPLE